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Communist Penetration

Editor, Stamford Advocate

Rightwing conservatives —

metimes called extremists — are concerned with the Communist penetration of countries that are not yet outwardly dominated by Moscow. These so-called extremists and super-patriots are also concerned about the shockingly inaccurate reporting of these conditions by our left-wing American press. So continuously does this occur that ignorance of available evidence can hardly explain the extent of these falsehoods. The ultra-conservatives, the Birchites, etc., as they are called, have been saying—and have been continuously attacked for saying—that our American government also consistently ignores this same available evidence of Communist penetration.

Eric Sevareid is prominent among the

liberal writers who have been so sharp in their condemnation of loyal Americans who have seen and warned of this Communist penetration and increasing control of previously friendly countries. In his Advocate column of March 10, Sevareid calls his recent mistake a "Cuban Drama." He carefully relates what no one now needs to be told: the destruction of the Cuban upper class, the exodus of the middle and professional classes, the plight of the plantation workers after the great Castro's agrarian reforms, the shortage of food and almost everything else.

But why detail this "drama" we have all seen after the curtain has already fallen? He says, "Like many active in the reporting trade who should have known better, I was wrong enough about Castro when he first won power." He and the many other journalists in the "reporting trade" were also wrong, and for no very good reason. If the right-wingers, whom he looks down upon with such contempt, knew about Castro's record of riots, killings and Communist activities, which are a matter of public record, why did not Sevareid also know? Betancourt, now in Communist control of Venezuela and a revolutionary pal of Castro, gave him arms for his Cuban liberation force, as did our own American government under Eisenhower. Some will remember that we were not going to permit—much less help—a foreign power establish itself 90 miles off our shores. Yet for some strange reason we were neither able to prevent it nor to correct it. We might ask Sevareid and CIA Dulles whether they had heard that brother Raul was in the Moscow school of revolution. And what about the lifetime Communist record of Che Guevara? Why did they not want to face

these facts and a long list of others? Communist Castro always says that we are agrarian reformers and that we are solidly secured and then the left-wing American press says, "So sorry, we made a mistake." Are our press and our government now making the same mistake about Katanga, Ghana, South African Zululand and elsewhere? We destroy pro-western influence and pour in our money — often through the U.N. — to strengthen our Communist enemies. Over one million American dollars are going the U.N. way to Castro even though he now admits he is a Marxist. Even Sevareid now says he knows this. How many more countries must our liberal press and left-wing government help to Communistize as they did to the mainland of China—before Americans will understand who is telling them the truth? And will it then be too late? Lenin said, "First the Balkans, then Asia, then South America. We will not have to attack the United States. It will fall into our lap like a ripe plum." But these conservatives, those Birchites, etc., they tell us the most unpleasant things. And isn't everyone saying, including the Communists, that they are destroying our freedom—or something?

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